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TOM GIBBONS DEFEATED ON POINTS.

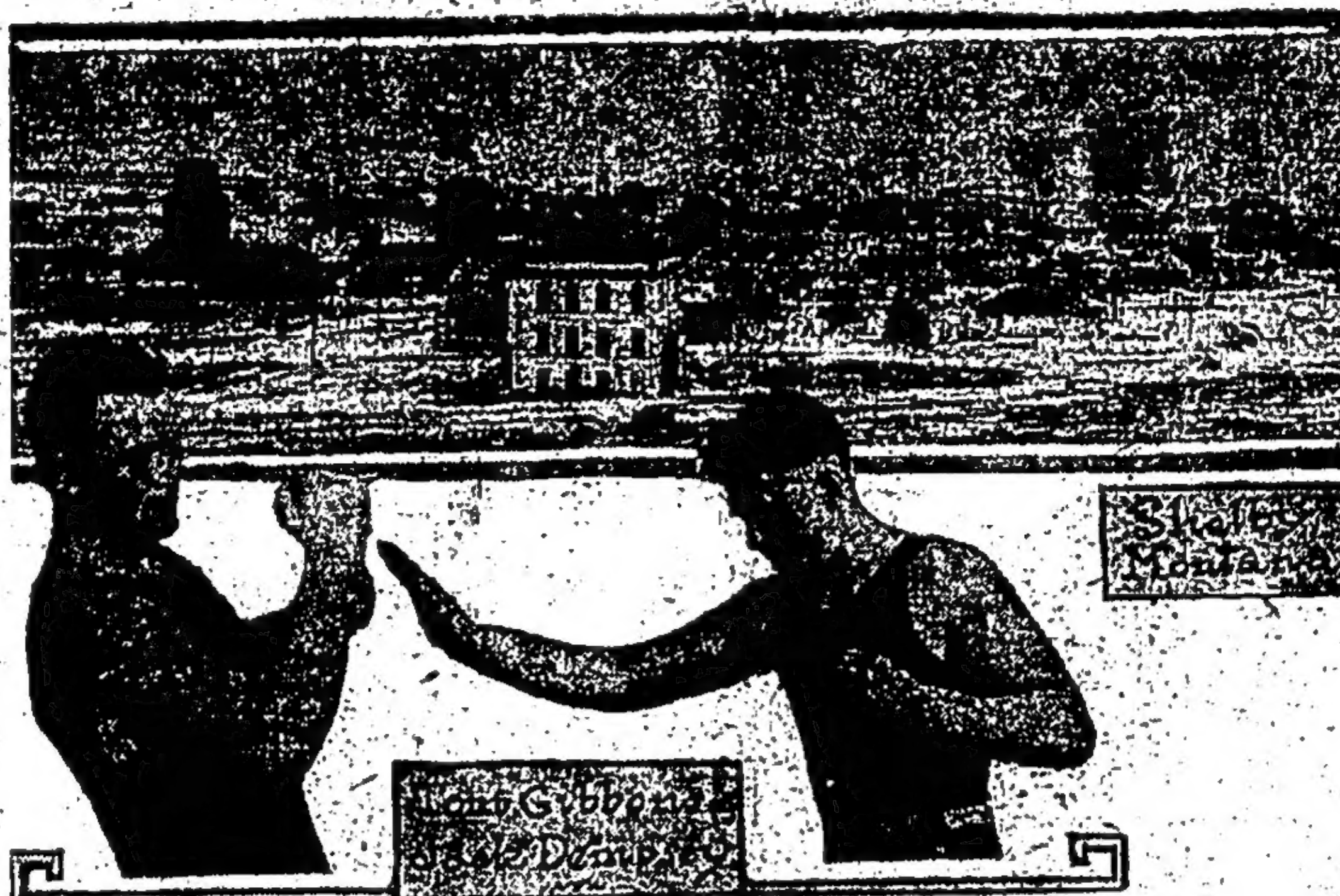
LOSER'S GAME FIGHT

CONTEST HEAVY FINANCIAL FAILURE

Shelby, Montana, July 5.

In a 15-round contest for the world's heavy-weight championship, Jack Dempsey defeated Tom Gibbons on points. -Reuter.

[This fight has been the chief topic of conversation in pugilistic circles for many weeks past. With the exception of his bout with Brehman in 1921, this is the sole occasion on which anyone has been found to last out the champion since he won the title from Jess Willard four years ago.]



FIGHT DESCRIBED.

DEMPSEY'S OLD-TIME STEAM GONE.

GIBBONS VERY ELUSIVE.

LATER.

The weather was very hot. There were 6,000 spectators. Contrary to general expectation, Gibbons made a good fight against the title holder. He out-boxed Dempsey in several rounds and fought with the utmost gameness throughout.

Gibbons weight was 12 stone 7 1/2 lbs. and Dempsey's 13 stone 6 lbs. Dempsey relied chiefly on body blows and left and right hooks to the jaw and head. He had the better of the early rounds, although in the second Gibbons with a left hook opened the cut over Dempsey's eye. Gibbons was elusive and smart, dodging and ducking. At times the champion attacked viciously, but Gibbons covered up and clinched to avoid punishment.

Dempsey's punishing body blows weakened Gibbons, but Dempsey appears to have lost some of his old-time steam, probably through his long lay-off.

The fight was the biggest financial failure in the history of the ring. -Reuter.

ALLIED TENSION.

ENTENTE IN THE BALANCE.

OFFICIAL SECREC.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

LONDON, July 4.

It is understood that the cabinet this morning heard Lord Curzon's account of discussions with the French and Belgian Ambassadors yesterday with regard to the Ruhr regarding which official circles are very secretive in view of the undesirability of emphasising the differences between the Allies.

It is admitted that the situation is difficult and the present conversations have a decisive bearing on Anglo-French relations.

STRIKE SPREADS.

25,000 DOCKERS NOW OUT.

WAGES DISPUTE.

LONDON, July 4.

The dockers' strike has seriously extended and 25,000 men are now idle, including 14,000 in London. The men are dissatisfied with the method of calculating the cost of a living figure by the fall of which reductions in wages are determined. They declare it does not cost the dockers a shilling day less to live.

The leaders point out that the agreement signed in September last making wages dependent on the cost of living must be upheld. They point out that they will benefit when the cost of living rises.

The men's dissatisfaction was voiced in the House of Commons this afternoon by Mr. Will. Thorne. The Minister of Labour, Sir M. Barlow, in reply, emphasised that the question was governed by an agreement. The time was not opportune to enquire into the method of calculating the cost of living as working class conditions were not yet normal. The speaker refused a motion moved by Mr. Jack Jones (Labour) for an adjournment with a view to discussing the matter.

UNDER STRICT CONTROL.

LEAGUE'S RIGID ECONOMY.

GENEVA, July 4.

Opposing a resolution moved by M. Hanotaux (France) that further reductions should be effected in the League's expenditure, Lord Robert Cecil declared that the League's finances were more strictly controlled than the finances of any country in the world. The expenditure had already been reduced 15 per cent and further decreases would impair the great value of the work.

M. Hanotaux's friendly spirit withdrew his resolution. He said he had merely suggested that the Secretary-General should bear in mind the necessity of economy.

MESMERISED.

NOTABLE WIMBLEDON TENNIS.

UNCANNY LENGLEN.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

LONDON, July 4.

The weather at Wimbledon was glorious. There was an enormous attendance, including the Duke and Duchess of York. In the semi-finals Hunter beat Gordon Lowe 6-3, 7-5, 6-4. Lowe was very slow in the first set. Hunter profited thereby and drove to the base line and corners. In many instances Lowe did not attempt to reach the ball. In the second set Lowe adopted a policy of lobbing Hunter back to the base and led 5-3, but Hunter played finely, winning against the service for a lead of 6-5. In the last set Hunter made some fine drives backhand to the corner.

Johnston beat Norton 6-4, 6-2, 6-4. Mile. Lenglen defeated Mrs. Beamish 6-0, 6-0.

HURRICANE DRIVING.

Norton made a splendid fight, especially in the first set which he tried to beat the American in his own game of hurricane driving but could not maintain the terrific pace. Johnston, taking command in the second set, which he won easily, led 5-2 in the third. Then Norton rallied and won the next two games. He carried the next to deuce and went down fighting.

Mile. Lenglen played with her usual uncanny accuracy. She seemed to mesmerise Mrs. Beamish who was far below her real form, hitting wildly and nothing frequently. The champion only thrice netted.

OTHER CONTESTS.

In the third round of the ladies' doubles Mrs. Lambert Chambers and Miss McKane beat Mrs. Mallory and Miss Bancroft 6-3, 6-0.

In the fourth round of the men's doubles La Costa and Borotra beat Hunter and Richards 6-3, 6-4, 3-6, 4-6, 6-4. De Gomar and Flaqueur beat Ingram and Masterman 10-8, 6-3, 6-3.

In the mixed doubles Lycett and Miss Ryan beat Whistley and Miss Colyer 10-8, 6-4, Washer and Mile. Lenglen beat Brynnon and Madame Macready 6-3, 6-2.

SEDITIONS CONSPIRACY.

IRISH AGITATORS JAILED.

LONDON, July 4.

The Irish deportees Art O'Brien and McCreath have each been sentenced to two years' imprisonment and four others, Galvin Mulvey, Wynne Fleming and a year apiece, all in the second division. Minors was found not guilty and discharged. [These men were found guilty of being deported in the big March raid on the Home Secretary had no power to release people, created without trial and interned in the Irish Free State.]

(Other news cables will be found on page 5.)

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STEEL GRIP.

RUHR CORDON STILL
TIGHTER.

STATE OF SIEGE.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

COLOGNE, July 5.—The cordon round the Ruhr occupied territories has been as close as possible. There are stationary patrols within sight of each other, while flying patrols are engaged in preventing evasion through fields and by-paths. Severe restrictions on Aix-a-Chapelle include prohibition of the use of taxicabs by Germans. The only motor vehicles allowed are doctors' cars and milk-distributing lorries.

It is reliably understood that the hostages taken in connection with the Duisburg explosion are being subjected to the severest prison discipline. They are not permitted to receive any visits whatsoever and are only allowed the ordinary prison food. The French have suspended the Duisdorf deputy Nachrichten for three months. Martial law at Duisburg has been extended to include Ruhrort, Mülheim, Oberhausen and Hamborn which have been entirely cut off.

PAYING OUR DEBTS.

WHAT HAS ALREADY BEEN
DONE.

AMERICAN OBLIGATIONS.

LONDON, July 4.—In the House of Commons, speaking to the third reading of the Budget, Mr. Joynson Hicks, Parliamentary Secretary of the Board of Trade, stated that \$440,000,000 had been paid off the debt since 1920. We were now rid of all foreign debts except the American one.

The Premier, Mr. Baldwin, declared that the Government's economic policy consisted of affording a stable situation of prices. He expressed the opinion that the time had not yet come to restore the gold standard.

The Budget passed the third reading by 249 to 245 votes.

HISTORIC EVENT.

BRITISH TARS CELEBRATE
FOURTH.

MINGLE WITH AMERICANS.

PORTLAND, July 5.—Detachments of blue jackets and marines from H.M.S. "Curlew" participated in the Independence Day celebrations here. They marched past the President side by side with American naval and military detachments.

The "Curlew" fired the presidential salute of six guns. Her staff officers sat on the presidential stand. Mr. Harding, in a speech, declared that the participation of the "Curlew's" men in the celebrations was an historic event without precedent.

[H.M.S. "Curlew" was formerly attached to the China Station.]

DUTCH EAST INDIES.

FRIGHTENING FOREIGN
CAPITAL.

THE HAGUE, July 5.—A report was read in the Second Chamber of the States General on a bill for the continuation of the duty on agricultural products from the Indies during 1923 and the introduction of a duty on petrol.

Many deputies objected to both measures. They considered that too heavy taxation was driving away much needed foreign capital.

NOVA SCOTIA STRIKE.

SYMPATHY MOVEMENT.

SYDNEY, NOVA SCOTIA, July 4.—Eight thousand coal miners in the Cape Breton district have struck in sympathy with the steel workers.

[Troops were despatched to Cape Breton, where 4,000 striking steel workers stoned the police, knocked down and stunned the magistrate reading the Riot Act and subsequently raided and seriously damaged the Empire Steel Corporation Works.]

SALVAGING AUSTRIA.

HOLLAND'S DELEGATE.

THE HAGUE, July 4.—The Government has appointed Dr. Patyn, former Secretary-General of the Foreign Ministry, Minister Plenipotentiary for Holland on the control committee instituted by virtue of the protocol dealing with the financial and economic reconstruction of Austria.

EMPIRE PREFERENCE.

NEW ZEALAND'S LEAD.

WELLINGTON, July 4.—During the Budget statement the Premier, Mr. Massey, announced that it was proposed to abolish the duty on tea in bulk from British Dominions and to reduce the duty on tea in packets also, the duty on foreign tea 3d. per lb.

OBITUARY.

MRS. CAROLINE SCHMIDT.

OLD HONGKONG RESIDENT

Hongkong lost one of its oldest residents yesterday when Mrs. Caroline Johanne Georgine Schmidt died at her home in Chatham Road Kowloon. Mrs. Schmidt, who was 81, was the widow of the late Mr. William Schmidt and the mother of Mrs. B. R. Branch.

Born in Holstein, she was married in Hongkong at the German chapel in 1879. A few months after she had become a widow in 1895 her son Hermann, aged 15, died and her only surviving relative is her daughter Henrietta who is the wife of Capt. Branch, the Official Measurer.

Mrs. Schmidt, who had spent 55 years in the East without ever going away from it, had been in fairly good health until quite recently. As her age advanced she unfortunately became deaf and this was responsible for keeping her a good deal at home. For many years after the death of her husband she and her daughter carried on the gunsmith's shop in Beconsfield Arcade. During the war she was one of the first to volunteer for sewing and knitting when Lady May called for help and her week's output put many a younger person to shame. Of a retiring nature, she was always ready to help anybody in trouble. The deepest sympathy will be extended to Mrs. Branch in her bereavement.

The funeral takes place to-day, passing the Monument at 5 p.m.

MR. G. A. YOUNG.

The many friends in the Far East of Mr. Jesse Ashton Young will learn with regret of his death in England on May 31.

The late Mr. Young joined the local office of Messrs. Shawson Tomes in 1905 and remained in Hongkong until 1917. Latterly he was authorised to sign the firm's name. In 1917 he was appointed to succeed the late Mr. H. G. Green (who was transferred to Bombay where he died) as Manager of the firm's branch in Kobe. In 1919 Mr. Young retired and has lived in the suburbs of London since. Mr. Young was very prominent in local Masonic circles, being a member of the Victoria Lodge, and whilst in Hongkong was a leading member of the Cathedral Choir. He was a member of the Philharmonic Society Committee.

"THE BLUE" PETER.

INTERESTING TRAVEL
MAGAZINE.

Messrs. Mackinnon, Mackenzie and Co., have been good enough to send us a copy of "The Blue Peter" which has raised our hopes anew on the question of good literature produced in pleasing form. The magazine is handy in size and is printed on art paper. The result is that the photographic illustrations with which the magazine abounds are clear and artistic. The cover bears a reproduction of a painting of the s.s. "Rotorua." Inside are scenes from Egypt, India and Australia, all most pleasing to the eye. The literary matter is exceptionally good. Beginning with an essay on "The Summer in Egypt" there is reading matter for all tastes. The fourth of a series of articles on the growth of the Empire takes pride of place. Richard Hakluyt is the subject of an informative essay. "Suicide's Wind" by Ruth Alexander is an interesting short story, very well done, whilst the third episode of the League of Laughter is amusing. The peopling of Australia, and Sydney Harbour have their own distinctive appeal, and on top of all this there are brief book and play reviews.

WATER SUPPLY.

POSITION NOW DEEMED
SATISFACTORY.

LAST MONTH'S FIGURES.

The total rainfall for June, according to the figures supplied to the P. W. D. by the Royal Observatory, was 15.72 inches against an average of 15.93. An average rainfall for the first six months of the year is 39.15 inches. This year the fall has been 20.27, so that to reach normal the July rainfall should reach 23.66, the average for the month being 13.78.

However Hongkong's share of rain is probably better than the Observatory figures indicate, as the Botanic Gardens' record for June was 18.51 or 4.73 inches better. At the end of June the storage on the Hongkong side amounted to 671 million gallons, the Kowloon figures being 210 million, which the Water Authority considers satisfactory.

LOCAL SOCIAL WORK.

HONOUR TO WHOM HONOUR
IN DUE.

WHY MISS PITTS GOT THE M.B.E.

In connection with the Reuter dispatch announcing that the Daily News, apropos the M.B.E. conferred on Miss Pitts, presumably for service to obtain the abolition of Mui Tsai in Hongkong, a China Mail reporter called upon Mr. J. M. Wong, Chairman of the local Anti-Mui Tsai Society.

Mr. Wong expressed the opinion that the message regarding Miss Pitts was incorrect. "Miss Pitts of the Anglican Mission," he said, "was most probably decorated for her work on the commission to enquire into child labour in factories in the Colony. The enquiry was held under the regime of Sir Henry May. Coupled with the facts that Miss Pitts was never identified to any extent with the movement to abolish Mui Tsai and her long and helpful career as a social mission worker, and as head of the Eyre Refuge after the death of Miss Eyre, I feel sure the Daily News is misinformed with regard to the reasons behind the bestowal of the M.B.E. on Miss Pitts. 'If any decorations are to be bestowed for work done to suppress Mui Tsai, Lieut. Commander and Mrs. Haslewood should be the first to obtain recognition. Provided the consent of the Haslewoods is obtained, I am strongly in favour of a petition being presented to His Majesty King George praying for redress for the injustice done the principals in this splendid fight, to quote the Daily News.'

WHERE BETTER?

GAMING IN NEW A. P. C.
BUILDING.

EXCITING POLICE RAID.

The new Asiatic Petroleum Co. building now being erected at the corner of Queen's Road and Wyndham Street, seems to be having an exciting time.

Not long ago, Revenue Officers raided the place to find raw opium being boiled on the very top of the skeleton structure. The culprits easily made good their escape while the revenue men were clinging precariously to the scaffolding. Since then the building has made further progress and it is not so difficult now to get up and down. Shortly after noon yesterday, Detective Sergeant A. L. Neal, with a batch of Chinese detectives, carried out a gambling raid. When they reached the fifth floor, the police saw a game of fan tau going on with about fifty workmen playing. The gamblers scattered, the majority risking their lives by jumping into the fourth floor. Some slid down the poles or climbed the steel joists. Not wishing to drive the men to take rash risks, the police satisfied themselves with arresting the banker and five others.

Mr. C. D. Melbourne, this morning, fined the leader \$25 and the others \$2 each.

Among the arrivals on the s.s. "Hakone Maru" were the Rt. Hon. Lord Addington, Major-General Nagao, and Mr. A. R. Pinget.

DISHONEST BOY.

STOLE HIS MASTER'S
CUFF LINKS.

A house-servant employed by Mr. B. Montefelt Webb who lives at Mount Davis near Pokfulam Road was charged before Mr. J. R. Wood this morning with the theft of a pair of cuff-links valued at \$50 and a penknife valued at \$5.

Mr. Webb stated that he had missed property from time to time, including articles of clothing but had not been able to fix the suspicion on defendant. The two articles in question were found in accused's box during search by the police after a complaint had been laid.

Defendant pleaded guilty and was sentenced to four months' hard labour.

"QUEEN OF KNIVES."

PARIS WOMAN'S CRIME
CAREER.

A woman variously known in criminal circles in Paris as "The Tigress of La Chapelle" and "The Queen of Knives," and whose real name is Lacoste, has been arrested for the second time for the attempted murder of another woman.

In 1919 she stabbed a rival to death. After the crime she disappeared and was condemned to death in her absence. Nevertheless, she returned to Paris, and for some time has been conducting a disorderly house.

Recently the police heard of her return and two detectives went to the house to arrest her. Two great dogs sprang at them and were despatched with difficulty.

When the detectives attempted to handcuff Lacoste and another woman who was with her, the "Tigress" screamed "Burglars!" and a number of men working near by came to her assistance. The detectives, after a rough and tumble, explained the situation and took their captives away.

At the assizes Lacoste's counsel, on a legal point, secured her acquittal, and she returned to her old haunts. "Last week, it is alleged, she attacked the woman who had been arrested with her and nearly killed her with a knife. The victim, it is declared, was so terrified of the "Queen of Knives" that she refused to divulge her assailant's identity.

The latter visited her in hospital and, it is alleged, stole her furs and jewellery from her bedside. Then she went to their joint abode and carried off the furniture. Yesterday she was arrested at her mother's house.

FATAL ACCIDENT.

Yesterday a Chinese girl who lives at Burrow Street was knocked down by a motor-car owned by a Mr. Ellis. She died after removal.

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SUNCRUSH ORANGE

"SUNCRUSH" Orange Juice—an all purpose orange juice—use it as a beverage—use it in the kitchen and bakery. Use it in place of oranges, cutting the fruit cost in two, including sugar.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

OUR TREES.

(To the Editor of the China Mail.)

Sir,—The time has arrived, or is soon arriving, for the "proper authority" to trim the various hyacinth shrubs in the Colony. For some years this "proper authority" has considered such trimming to consist in cutting off the upper half of the tree, apparently with the object of making the poor shrub look like a table top. Now, Sir, I venture to suggest the natural shape of this shrub as more or less oviform, and being a lover of trees and plants, I implore the "proper authority" to cut them into a more or less oviform shape.

And while I am troubling you, Sir, may I suggest that, if possible, the amahs at the Peak be prosecuted if they allow the children in their charge to break or damage the bamboos and other trees at the Peak. All children, we know, have a natural inclination to break branches unless they are told that they must not do so, therefore I suggest that the damage done is really the fault of the amahs.

I have been living here a good many years, and have spent a good deal of my time in endeavouring to help the Forestry Department in their beautifying of the place by the planting of trees, etc.

I beg you, Sir, for space in your valuable paper to record this my lament and suggestion.

Yours faithfully,
TREE LOVER.
Hongkong, July 5.

TO-DAY'S
ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED.

DOCTOR WANTED immediately for Steamer to Australia. Apply Wing On & Co.

TO SECRETARIES OF CLUBS AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS.

ALL preliminary notices of forthcoming meetings, lectures and entertainments, sent for insertion in the news-columns of the China Mail, are charged for at the rate of \$1 each, (as announced in May and June of 1922) providing that they do not occupy more than four lines. In future if this space is exceeded they will be placed in the advertising columns at the prevailing rates.

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BATHING
CAPS.MANY NOVEL DESIGNS
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SMART COLOURINGS.

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PORTABLE
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UNEQUALLED IN QUALITY

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Dinky little Drawingroom Dramas

are not the kind of fare
the Cinemagoer requires
at this time of year!

Come out for a sail

for an hour or so with

THE OFFSHORE PIRATE

as jovial a rogue

as ever sailed the

Summer Seas

TO-NIGHT till SATURDAY

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From Canton daily at 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Sundays 5 p.m. only)

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Sailings—To Majao—Daily at 8 a.m. and 2 p.m. (Sundays at 8 a.m. only).
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Further information may be obtained at the Company's Office, 41 Des Voeux Road Central, Messrs. Thos. Cook & Son, or the American Express Company Hongkong.

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S.S. "WRAY CASTLE"Sailing on or about 10th July.
S.S. "BREMONT CASTLE"Sailing on or about 7th August.
S.S. "BOWEN CASTLE"Sailing on or about 7th September.

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REDUCED FARE FROM HONGKONG TO ITALIAN PORTS 266.
FOR SHANGHAI, YOKOHAMA AND KOBE.

S.S. "DUCHESSE D'AOSTA"Sailing on or about 8th July.
S.S. "TRIESTE"Sailing on or about 2nd August.
S.S. "ROSANDRA"Sailing on or about 2nd September.

Passengers' Luggage can be insured at the office of the Agents.

FOR BRINDISI, VENICE, AND TRIESTE.

S.S. "DUCHESSE D'AOSTA"Sailing beginning of August.
S.S. "TRIESTE"Sailing on or about end of August.
S.S. "ROSANDRA"Sailing on or about end of September.

NATAL LINE OF STEAMERS

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BETTING CRAZE.

REMARKABLE EVIDENCE IN TAX INQUIRY.

Remarkable evidence has been given in the course of the Betting Tax inquiry as to the widespread prevalence of betting and its increasing vogue among women.

A chief constable states that the present law operates unfairly against the working classes, and that it is of little value as a preventive of betting.

The first public sitting of the Select Committee set up by the Government to inquire into the proposal to place a tax on betting took place at the House of Commons last night, Mr. Cautley, K.C., in the chair.

The first witness was Mr. O. F. Dowson, assistant legal adviser to the Home Office.

He explained the legal aspect of the question, and described the various acts passed to deal with the problem of betting.

Mr. Cautley—The general result is that the law of betting is rather in a chaotic condition?

Mr. Dowson—Yes, was the reply of witness, who added—I do not think anybody can say that the policy of the Legislature has been distinguished by consistency.

Witness agreed that the Post Office gave special facilities for conducting the business of betting.

EACH CASE DIFFERENT.

The witness said that everything depended on the facts of each case. It was difficult to give a definite answer on a point which had not been the subject of a direct legal decision.

Mr. Dowson agreed that in the case of a club there was nothing to prevent members betting to an unlimited amount on a game of cards played by other members.

The Chairman—And in a private house one can bet to one's heart's content?—Yes.

It is open to this criticism, that a rich man can get credit to his bet, and get away with out penalties?—If he goes the right way about it.

While the poor man, who bets in the street, goes to prison?—That is rather the tendency.

Witness referred to the Ready Money Bookmaking and Betting Act of 1922 as of not very great importance.

IMPORTANCE OF AN UMBRELLA.

Replying to Mr. Hughes, witness said a book-maker who merely stood in the same position throughout a race meeting was not held to be bringing himself within the law.

The Chairman—If he put up an umbrella or stood on a box he would. (Laughter.)

Witness was not prepared to say it was impossible to prosecute a bookmaker on a racecourse. It was still possible for him to conduct business in such a way as to bring him within the law. A bookmaker had been convicted for putting up an umbrella and standing on a box.

The Chairman suggested that the Home Office should supply a memorandum on such questions as to whether, if bookmakers could attend racecourses, they could also attend football matches, and, if so, whether they would be liable to proceedings, or whether the proprietors of the grounds were liable, and also the question of boxing matches held in an enclosed building.

Witness undertook to supply such a memorandum.

BETTING IN A WORKSHOP.

Sir A. Butt also asked the position in regard to betting carried out by a man at a works or factory. Would such an act be liable?—Witness agreed to deal with this question also in the memorandum.

Detective-Superintendent Ernest Thompson, of the City of London Police, said that a considerable amount of betting was going on on licensed premises where bookmakers resorted. Within a square mile in the city there were between 100 and 150 public-houses, and he computed betting transactions were conducted in about half of them. A licensee usually objected to these bets from bookmakers.

Dealing with street betting, Superintendent Thompson said a considerable amount of this still went on.

DIFFICULT TO ENFORCE.

At the meeting of the Committee on Tuesday, evidence was given by Mr. Francis Caldwell, Chief-Constable of Liverpool. He said it was difficult to give any indication of the extent to which betting prevailed in the city, but it was undoubtedly very widespread amongst all classes of the community, and there was hardly a large works in the city where betting was not indulged in.

Betting was prevalent amongst women as well as men.

The present betting law was exceedingly difficult to enforce owing to its inconsistency, of which the practical result was one law for the well-to-do, who could bet on credit, and another for the poorer classes who could only indulge in ready money.

The law was a most unpopular one, and in marked contrast to offences against other statutes where the public were generally ready to help the police.

With regard to the allegations which were made from time to time that the police were bribed by bookmakers, he was quite satisfied that if such cases did occur they were extremely isolated cases.

IF BOOKMAKERS WERE LICENSED.

If bookmakers were licensed and allowed to conduct ready-money betting at registered addresses approved by Local Authorities, he was of opinion that there would be very little if any increase in betting.

Mr. Caldwell was asked by Sir Beddoe Rees if the giving of tips in the newspapers encouraged betting. His reply was in the affirmative.

Do you suggest that the law should be altered to make tipping illegal? was the next question.

Witness hesitated, and then said, "As a deterrent to betting I should say yes."

The witness said, in reply to further questions, that the war was a great cause of betting. It had given people a craving for excitement which found expression in all kinds of sport.

A STRIKING DEVELOPMENT.

The Hon. Trevor Bigham, Assistant Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, was called. The summary of his evidence laid on the table said that one of the most striking developments of late years had been the increase of the taste for betting among women, who not only resorted to the bookmaker or his agent themselves, but employed their children as messengers.

The duty of detecting illegal betting was an unpopular one among the police.

The law was antiquated, obscure, illogical, ineffective, and fell unevenly upon different classes of the community.

The Chairman of the Committee asked witness if he was aware that at a certain hotel very near the House of Commons a bookmaker's agent called every morning for the waiters' bets.

The Assistant Commissioner confessed that he did not know of that specific case, but it was likely to be typical. He said he had heard of a bookmaker's agent who called regularly for bets at a lunatic asylum. (Laughter.)

The Chairman—From the patients or from the attendants?

Assistant Commissioner—That, sir, did not appear.

The Committee then adjourned.

A BANEFUL MENACE.

The menace of betting and gambling, state the Committee on Church Life and Work and Public Morals, in their report to the United Free Church of Scotland General Assembly, is deplorably prevalent in urban areas and industrial centres, and is growing more and more efficient in its methods. It also appears to be spreading in rural districts, continues the report, especially on occasions like "Shows."

The wide popularity of football coupon competitions, which drive competitors, and the like has been reflected in the Press reports, and they demand the attention of the public authorities and all who have the general civic good at heart.

The Government's appointment of a Select Committee to consider the question of taxation of betting must rouse the Churches to uncompromising opposition, lest the corrupt practices that have wrought so much harm in other countries should gain a footing in our own land. On every such baneful practice the Churches unite in waging deadly war.

MORE SCHOOLS.

KOWLOON NEEDS EMPHASIZED.

EDUCATION ESTIMATES.

At the Board of Education meeting yesterday afternoon, the estimates for next year were discussed at some length.

The Director of Education (the Hon. Mr. E. A. Irving) presided and there were also present the Rev. Fr. H. Valtoria, Dr. Wan Man-kai, and Messrs. B. Wylie, H. B. L. Dowbiggin, A. F. B. Silva Netto, Rumjahn, S. W. Tso, E. Ralphs (Inspector of English Schools), R. A. D. Forrest (acting Inspector of Vernacular Schools) and Y. P. Law (Secretary).

Mr. Irving said it was quite impossible for him to give details of all the increases in the estimates. He had made notes of the more important points and these were before the Board. He thought it would be sufficient if he answered any questions members desired to put.

In regard to the appointment of Mr. G. P. de Martin, M.B.E., B.A., as an additional Inspector of Schools, Mr. Wylie expressed approval, pointing out that the Inspector of Schools, particularly the Inspector of English Schools, were engaged at the present time in far too much office work. He welcomed the appointment because it gave the Inspectors greater opportunity for visiting schools and advising the teachers. Mr. Wylie also thought that the Government might provide a motor car for the use of the Department.

The Director of Education felt that Mr. Ralphs was doing much more outside work than he was inside work. On the question of a motor car there was nothing he would like better, but he was afraid His Excellency would not approve of it.

Mr. Wylie: I would be more optimistic if I were you, Sir.

Mr. Dowbiggin asked how the Inspector got to the schools now.

The Director of Education replied mainly by ricksha.

Mr. Dowbiggin: A car is quicker than a ricksha.

The Director of Education: Quite. Most of the journeys are of short distance. I do not know if when we get these famous tax-cars, we shall be able to make any use of them.

MORE TEACHERS NEEDED.

The Director of Education mentioned that he was asking for an additional five students, making 35 in all for training at the University. The students passed the Matriculation examination and the Government paid their fees whilst at the University, with the view to their becoming masters when they had completed their education; there were 24 and 15 additional mistresses.

These were necessary in order to bring the establishment up to full strength. The assistant masters had long been overdue and they had not been able to get them in sufficient numbers. The assistant mistresses were largely to replace local temporary teachers. During the past two years they had to supplement the staff by local teachers. It was desirable that they should have permanent mistresses and he had asked for a sufficient number practically to replace the whole of them.

In reply to Mr. Dowbiggin the Director of Education said he thought they could reckon when they obtained these teachers on having a full staff for the next two years, because there would be very few mistresses going on furlough and there would be no difficulty in filling their places.

Mr. Wylie was pleased to see that the staff of assistant masters and mistresses was being increased and that three assistant masters were to replace temporary mistresses. Fifteen additional mistresses had been approved to replace temporary mistresses and such additional help should certainly go far in improving the teaching in the schools and remove any suspicion of reproach that the Department tolerated uncertificated teaching. No one deprecated more than he did the employment of uncertificated teachers, but in fairness to the Department he had to recollect that during the war—or perhaps it would be more correct to say for a period of something like seven years—it was almost impossible to replace the wastage occasioned by sickness, marriage and retirement. What was often lost sight of was that during that period not one of their schools had been closed.

Mr. Silva Netto was about to discuss an individual case, when Mr. Wylie rose to a point of order.

The Director of Education pointed out to Mr. Silva Netto that he was out of order. To discuss individual salaries was not a duty of the Board. It would lead to a situation which would be quite intolerable. All cases of increases of salary were referred to him and it was his duty to report to the Government. It was quite impossible for the Board to consider cases without knowing a great deal about the details of his cases, which it was quite impossible for them to know. The Board was appointed to advise the Director of Education and not to scrutinize salaries and it was quite out of its province to attempt to do so.

PHYSICS AND CHEMISTRY.

Discussing the vote of \$8,300 for Physics and Chemistry Grants to Grant Schools, Mr. Wylie said he took it the grants referred to St. Joseph's College and the Diocesan Boys School. He noted with surprise that no provision was made for physics and chemistry to be taught at Kowloon British School. He was not disclosing a secret when he said that the matter had already been discussed and his impression was that it had already received the approval of the Board. The absence of a vote, therefore, for this purpose, caused him to feel a little uneasy. In granting votes to St. Joseph's College and the Diocesan Boys School the Education Department had agreed to the principle that physics and chemistry formed part of the education of the modern youth. The fact that those interested in these two schools were willing to pay part of the expenditure was surely a recognition on their part that they realised the necessity of it. If the tutors of Chinese and Portuguese boys were prepared to help pay for this education, should it require special pleading on his part to obtain the same necessities for British boys? He trusted that before the estimates went to the Government there would be included in them a sum sufficient to start physics and chemistry in Kowloon British School.

Mr. Dowbiggin remarked that the difficulty was that very few boys stayed at the Kowloon British School long enough for them to go to the University.

The Director of Education expressed himself as strongly in favour of physics and chemistry being taught at Kowloon British School. He thought there were enough boys to teach it there and he hoped an item would be put in this year's estimates to cover the cost. A Sub-Committee of the Board had already recommended it and he thought it would be as well if the Board recommended it.

MORE SCHOOLS.

Mr. Wylie, speaking of the construction of new schools, said he noted that Queen's College and St. Joseph's School were to be projected with and that new buildings were promised for Kowloon School Senior and Victoria British School. They were also led to expect in the dim and distant future secondary schools in suitable centres, schools at which there would be no coeducation. "We are certainly getting on, Sir, in theory," Mr. Wylie remarked. "I note also that there is some slight possibility of new buildings being erected at Un Long and Cheung Chau, but the tone of your remarks, Sir, is of so pessimistic a note that I am afraid it will be a case of live horse and you will get grass." This should not be so. The Government in the matter of school accommodation is certainly not keeping pace with the needs of the community. "In Kowloon alone, we require to-day at least three new schools." Only the other day when visiting Yau-mat School he made enquiries and was informed that at the beginning of the year they had to turn away something like 150 who would have liked to enter school. Kowloon was growing very rapidly. Sham-shui was now almost a town and so many buildings were going at a tremendous rate that it was at times almost impossible to get a building. Another school was needed out Kowloon loon City way. Mr. Wylie also pointed out that no provision had yet been made for a girls' school in Kowloon. He could imagine what the excuse would be, there was no question that the real reason was that the Public Works Department, by reason of its present organisation, was handicapped in undertaking the work. While educational authorities at Home could not proceed with building schemes for want of money, the Government here could not proceed for want of men. "We have the money but we cannot spend it quickly enough," Mr. Wylie said. There was, to his mind, a partial solution of the difficulty.

A SCOTTISH EXAMPLE.

Mr. Wylie proceeded to read an excerpt from the Scottish Education Department's Report for 1921-22, in which it was stated: "The gaps in school supply, which the proposed works were designed to fill have naturally not all been left entirely blank. To a considerable extent, immediate requirements have been met by the utilization of Army huts, which cost little and can be put up at comparatively small cost. These constructions ought not, perhaps, to be regarded as more than a makeshift. But the employment of makeshifts, or the total omission of what is required, are not only means of economy. By the adoption of a cheaper style of building, two schools may be built, and are being built, at little more than the cost of one. Strongholds of the 'last-forever' type are out of vogue and of the new buildings which are being actually erected, the great majority are of a light, semi-permanent type. It will be some consolation for the present unfortunate state of affairs if the lessons learned under the teaching of necessity lead to the evolution of an improved type of school building, not only cheaper and more readily replaced, but also altered requirements, but actually superior in other respects to those put up before the war."

BELLIOS SCHOOL.

LANGUAGE SUB-COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

The report of the Sub-Committee (Mr. Ralphs and Mr. Silva Netto) appointed by the Board of Education to consider the question of the teaching of Portuguese or French in the Bellios School was presented at yesterday's meeting of the Board of Education. It was decided to postpone decision on the subject until the next meeting of the Board. The report, which is dated June 26, reads as follows:—

We visited the above school this morning in connection with the question of the teaching of the Portuguese language to Portuguese girls, and have ascertained that the subject can be added to the curriculum without undue interference with other school subjects.

It appears that, at present, the number of Portuguese pupils in the school is 26, distributed as follows:

Class 5b	13
5a	4
4a	2
3a	2
2a	2
1a	2
1b	2

It is not suggested that those in the four Upper Classes should now begin the study of a second language, but we consider that those in Classes 5a and 5b should do so.

With regard to the question whether the second language should be Portuguese or French, it was resolved at the last meeting of the Board that the feeling of the Portuguese community should be ascertained. In this connection, a meeting of the Portuguese Mutual Benefit Association (Associação Portuguesa de Socorros Mútuos) was held in the Club Lusitano on Tuesday, 18th inst., when the following resolution was unanimously adopted:—

"That the teaching of the Portuguese language be compulsory for all Portuguese students attending the schools in this colony and that Mr. Silva Netto endeavour with the Board of Education to carry out this resolution."

With this strong expression of opinion to guide us we have concluded that, while French might be of some practical utility, Portuguese is the mother tongue of those concerned and supporting the principle that a pupil should be taught his own language, we advocate the teaching of the Portuguese language to the Portuguese, and recommend that the study of this language be begun at the Bellios School.

DOUBLE PLEASURE.

THE CORONET'S GENEROUS OFFER.

There are at least two reasons why residents should visit the Coronet today and tomorrow. One is that a very fine programme including a Metro production, featuring Viola Dana and entitled "The Offshore Pirate," is being shown. Another very good reason is that by so doing they will be helping a deserving charity.

Mr. H. W. Ray, of the Hongkong Amusements, Ltd., has generously offered to give a percentage of his takings to-day and to-morrow to the Telegraph's London Hospital fund. "The Offshore Pirate" is a story of a group of people who adopt desperate measures to save an heiress from the wiles of a schemer who is after her money. Piratical tactics in a spruce yacht bring about a series of thrilling escapades, ending in a reversal of the intruder's hopes, and the ushering in of new ones. It is an adaptation from a Saturday Evening Post story by F. Scott Fitzgerald.

Miss Lana is supported by an able cast, including Jack Mulhall, Edward Johnson, Edward Cecil and the well-known boxer "Spike" Robinson.

Even the use of huts has been instructive," Mr. Wylie thought the Chairman had taken that lesson to heart when he suggested that the school to be erected at Quarry Bay should be of a temporary type. Incidentally he thought they had to thank the Government for having a school erected in that district and he hoped that no time would be lost in constructing it.

The Director of Education mentioned that the Public Works Department had made a recommendation to the Government for putting up a temporary school at Quarry Bay, which would be a makeshift. But the employment of makeshifts, or the total omission of what is required, are not only means of economy. By the adoption of a cheaper style of building, two schools may be built, and are being built, at little more than the cost of one. Strongholds of the "last-forever" type are out of vogue and of the new buildings which are being actually erected, the great majority are of a light, semi-permanent type. It will be some consolation for the present unfortunate state of affairs if the lessons learned under the teaching of necessity lead to the evolution of an improved type of school building, not only cheaper and more readily replaced, but also altered requirements, but actually superior in other respects to those put up before the war."

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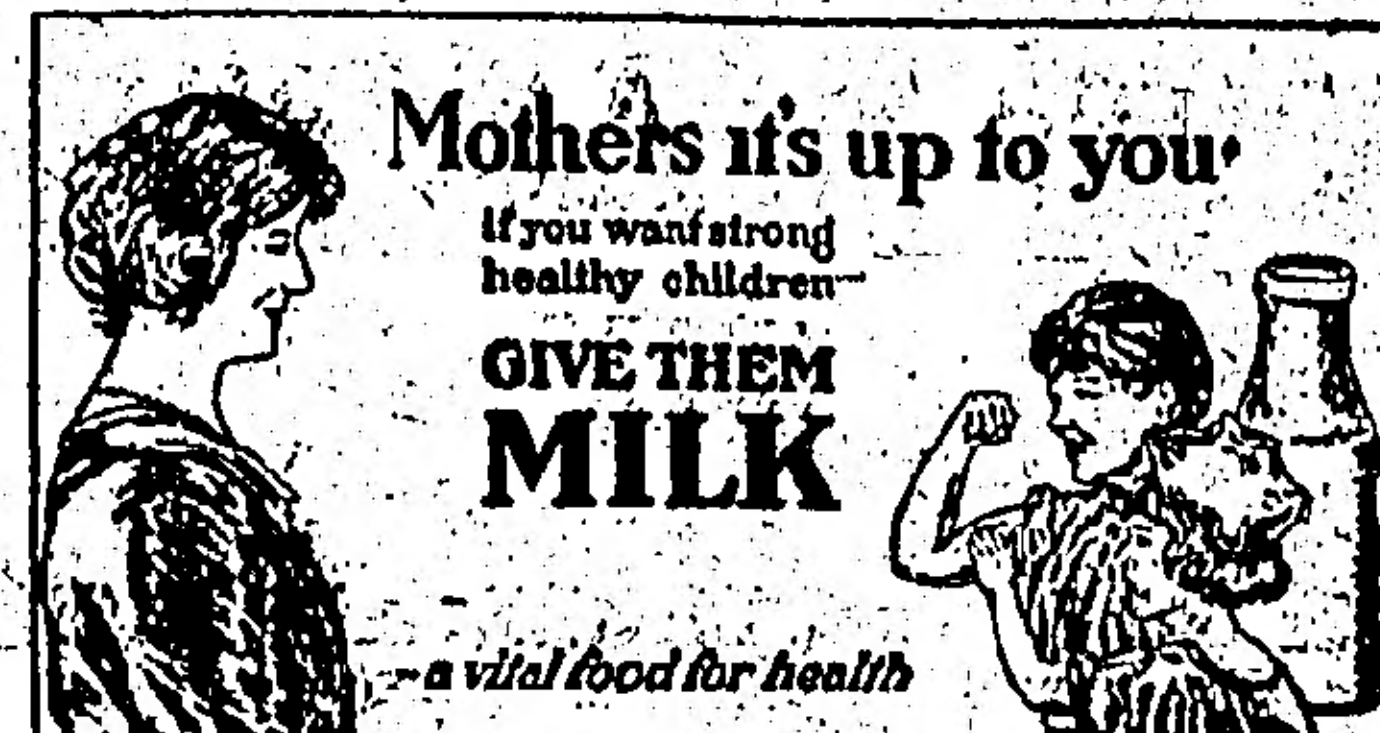
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DAIRY FARM, ICE & COLD STORAGE COMPANY, LIMITED.



A SPECIAL VALUE LINE IN BATH GOWNS AT WHITEAWAYS



Exceptionally good value in good heavy Turkish towelling. Roll collar same colour as stripes. Broad black stripes in blue and dark pink.

ALL SIZES \$18.50 EACH.

WHITEAWAY, LAIDLAW & CO., LTD.
HONGKONG.

STORY OF "QUEST."

ISLAND WHERE FEW DIE BEFORE 90.

To those who love adventure, sea-faring, and the exploration of remote and rarely visited islands; Commander Frank Wild's book "Shackleton's Last Voyage" (Cassell, 30s.) will afford entrancing reading.

It tells the story of the Quest, and tells it well, with the advantage of magnificent illustrations from photographs. There is incident in abundance, for life in "the stark and stifling solitude that sentinel the Pole" is never insipid. The craving for such an existence as the Quest's crew had at moments comes over all.

These days impressed themselves vividly in one's memory. I think it is impressions like these which, working perhaps subconsciously, produce that haunting restlessness which makes one feel suddenly and without apparent cause dissatisfied with civilisation, its veneer and artificiality, its restrictions and its ugliness.

The crew of the Quest, sailing where a century before early explorers had forced their way without steam, recognised the splendid character of their work.

I was compelled for the sake of economy to shut off steam and proceed under sail only, which gave me some idea of the difficulties which Bellinghousen and Biscoe had to contend with, and enabled me to appreciate their reluctance to push deeply into the ice. In the whole of my experience as a seaman I have never encountered a part of the world where weather and sea conditions are so uncomfortable.

They saw much of the killer whale, that horrible creature. It is a smaller variety of true whale, but it has immense jaws and a wide gullet, and lives not on whale food but on seals and penquins, and it is conceivable that it has on occasions accommodated a man; though whether it ever let one go again is a different matter.

TRISTAN DA CUNHA.

The full account of Tristan da Cunha, the lonely islet in the southern Atlantic, and of its British settlers is of special interest. The longevity of the islanders is remarkable, few seem to die under 90 years of age. Nor is there to be found among them any sign of mischief caused by intermarriage. Dr. Macklin, who spent some time with them, states:

"As to mental degeneration, I considered these islanders to be very intelligent. They are uneducated, limited in outlook, and generally 'insular,' but how could they be anything else in their peculiar circumstances?"

St. Helena was visited. We were introduced to a huge tortoise, reputed to be 200 years old, which sometimes leaves the grounds for the road and causes all the horses which encounter it to shy. It takes six men to lift it off the road.

This is a book to enjoy, and Commander Wild writes well.

LADY IN AUSTRALIA Tell How She Drove Out The Poisons of Rheumatism.

Rheumatism is in the blood, therefore it is useless trying to cure it by rubbing ointments or liniments on the skin. Mrs. W. Douglas, of Brunswick Road, Albany, Western Australia, proved this for herself a while ago and at the same time found a thousands of other rheumatic sufferers have done that. Write to her for the blood with Dr. Williams' Pink Pills in the right treatment.

COMMERCIAL

HONGKONG NOTES AND COMMENT.

PIECEGOOD ACTIVITY.

Some of the piecegoods ordered for this fall have already arrived in the Colony, which is considered a little earlier than usual. Ordinarily, this would not have much effect on the market but this year dealers have commenced trading in winter goods. Some of the standard lots and especially well-known chops have changed hands. However, it appears as if a little speculation has been going on as a few lots known to be favoured were sold several times. In Hongkong's piecegoods business—as far as the Chinese dealer is concerned—bona fide business is confined to sales by the large dealers (who indent through the European firms) to customers who either re-ship the goods to South China or dispose of them retail in the Colony. During the last few days, a few brokers have had considerable patronage in orders to buy and then re-sell. These transactions are undoubtedly more or less in the nature of a gamble although there is an explanation that they are feelers as to the trend business will take. Original holders all managed to dispose of their lots at a fair to good profit.

EXPORT.

Quite a number of the Chinese export dealers report that there have been enquiries for feathers, rattan-cane, aniseed-oil, etc. These are the smaller items of China produce exported, but nevertheless, cultivated by the more conservative firms, as there is always a steady demand for them. Regular shipments are made by exporters with connections in the nature of routine work. It is reported that a lot of aniseed oil has just been sold for London at about \$86, on the customary terms and qualifications.

JAPANESE GOODS.

Despite the many announcements to be seen regarding the proposed boycott of Japanese goods, there seems to be no sign of reduction in the import of small sundries and paper in the Colony for use in South China. Manifests of ships coming in from Japan and river boats for Canton, etc. still comprise a great many items of manufactured sundries, in addition to the "marine delicacies" used to a large extent by the Chinese.

COMPANY MEETING.

NORTH CHINA INSURANCE CO., LTD.

The 20th ordinary annual general meeting of shareholders in the North China Insurance Co., Ltd., was held at Shanghai, last week. Mr. H. Martin Little presided, supported by Messrs. Wm. P. Lambie, P. W. Massey, F. A. Kearton, F. R. Scott (Directors), and H. G. Nimmo, general manager, and other shareholders.

The Chairman said:—The results for the year 1922 are highly satisfactory notwithstanding the difficult conditions which existed as a result of trade depression and high running cost. After paying an interim dividend of 15 per cent., the balance at credit of working account 1922, on 31st December, 1922, is Tls. 460,508.25, and your Directors recommend that this balance be dealt with as follows:—

A final dividend of 15 per cent. and the remainder to be transferred to underwriting reserve account, closing the account for 1922.

As regards working account, 1923, continued depression in trade and keen competition for what business there was still continued to be factors influencing our results, but it is satisfactory to note that there is some evidence this year of a return to a more normal experience. The balance at credit on 31st December, 1923, was Tls. 659,335.81 and it is proposed to pay out of this an interim dividend of 15 per cent. and a bonus to contributors of 20 per cent., and carry the remainder forward.

Our reinsurance fund stands at the same figure as last year, while there is a substantial increase in our underwriting reserve account.

Exchange and fluctuations account shows a reduction compared with last year, which is due to our book rate of exchange being taken at 9/5 against a book rate exchange of 4/.

The general improvement in the market value of high class securities referred to at our last annual general meeting has been maintained, and the market value is substantially in excess of the value at which our securities appear in the Company's books.

SHANGHAI TRADE.

The N. O. Daily News of June 30 says:—

The majority of people again have been very satisfied with the course of business this week, for it did not improve, at least there was no appreciable falling off. A

good feeling continues in the piece goods trade and some active speculation is beginning in the new lines just coming on.

PIECEGOODS. Dealers still are clamouring in the indent market for all stuff as it arrives and even have shown a readiness to pay fair advances. Lower exchange, however, makes forward business rather more of a gamble. The undertone is very firm.

COTTON, YARN, ETC. Local Cotton.—The market now is very steady and the latest quotations are:—
Tungchow Tls. 40.50
Shanghai 37.50
Shanghai 39.50-41.00
Hankow 37.00
Yarn.—A few sales have been reported on an improved market, but business still is very slow.

American Cotton.—After a week in which advances were more general, the New York market now is steady and the quotations on Thursday were:—

Spot 28.55 cents.
July 27.90
October 24.90
December 24.85
January 24.05
March 24

The Liverpool market also is steady and the quotations on Thursday were:—Middling American, spot, 16.34d.; July, 16.18d.; October, 13.63d.

Indian Cotton.—In sympathy with the other markets, that at Bombay also is steady. Thursday's quotations were:—Bengal (July), Rs. 447; Oomra (December/January), Rs. 437; Broach (July/August), Rs. 520.

LIVERPOOL EXPORTS.

The following are details of cotton goods entered for export from the port of Liverpool during the week ending May 25:—

	Plains	Dyed	Coloured	Wool	Woolen	Woolen
	in bale	in bale	in bale	in bale	in bale	in bale
Bombay	1,040	603	85	25	21	21
Calcutta	10,409	789	60	21	21	21
Karachi	5,528	1,138	21	21	21	21
Ceylon	948	225	21	21	21	21
Rangoon	538	284	21	21	21	21
Straits Settlements	853	202	21	21	21	21
HONGKONG	115	50	21	21	21	21
Shanghai	1,922	883	21	21	21	21
Japan	12	64	21	21	21	21
Africa W.C.	1,007	1,012	21	21	21	21
Egypt	1,719	2,070	21	21	21	21
Turkey	1,260	1,073	21	21	21	21
Australia and N.Z.	685	984	21	21	21	21
Argentina	1,072	1,386	21	21	21	21
U.S.A.	1,075	868	21	21	21	21
Total all markets	35,019	47,928	779	21	21	21
Total previous week	42,821	19,558	892	21	21	21
Total month of April	204,214	112,064	10,893	21	21	21

THE CHINESE LOAN.

Mr. Birch Crisp's negotiations for a loan to China were discussed at the meeting of the holders of the Chinese 8 per cent. "Marconi" and

LATEST SHIPPING NEWS.

ARRIVALS.

Kaifu Maru, (O.S.K.) from Keelung, Swatow.—Co's Wharf.
Haiching, (Douglas) from Foochow, Swatow.—Co's Wharf.
Affital, (Kwong O) from Port Bayard, Macao.—Co's Wharf.
Talszema, (Yan Fat) from Kwong Chow, Wan.—Co's Wharf.
Haitan, (Man Ming) from Holhow.—Yau-mat.
Seistan, (Kuen Seng) from Saigon.—B56.
Levant Arrow, (St. Oil) from San Francisco.—Lanchikok.
Kaiping, (Sing Kee) from Haiphong, Pakhoi.—West Point.
Kiangsu, (B. & S.) from Bangkok, Swatow.—B56.
Tottori Maru, (N.Y.K.) from Yokohama, Shanghai.—A30.
Tahuan, (C.M.S.N.) from Shanghai.—Co's Wharf.
Lok Sang, (J.M. & Co.) from Shanghai, Swatow.—Co's Wharf.
Preussen, (Arnhold & Co.) from Foochow.—A30.
Scheer, (R. Brockelman) from Hamburg, Singapore.—K. Wharf.

DEPARTURES.

Taksang, (J. M. & Co.) for Newchwang, Swatow.—July 5.
Muroan Maru, (N.Y.K.) for Calcutta, Singapore.—July 5.
Van Cloon, (J.C.I.L.) for Amoy, Swatow.—July 5.
Amherst, (On Fat) for Holhow.—July 5.
Hydrangea, (Chin On) for Swatow.—July 5.
Kaying, (B. & S.) for Singapore, Swatow.—July 5.
Cyclops, (B. & S.) for Liverpool, Saigon.—July 5.
Benvenue, (Gibb Liv) for Yokohama, Shanghai.—July 5.
Levant Arrow, (St. Oil) for Kan-kai.—July 5.
Jade, (Kai Yu) for Haiphong, Pakhoi.—July 5.
Preussen, (Arnhold) for Hamburg, Manila.—July 5.

"Vickers" issues which are in default.

The meeting was convened by Mr. Crisp with a view to formulating some plan to secure payment of interest on these bonds. Mr. Crisp said that a loan of £20,000,000 had originally been "talked of," secured on the Chinese Salt Gabelle, but this scheme failed to gain the approval of the Foreign Office and met with strong opposition from the Bankers' Consortium. Mr. Crisp said that his group was now "thinking of" a loan of £10,000,000 secured on surplus Customs-dues. In view of the large American interests involved, one-half of this loan would be raised in New York and one-half in London. The present note-holders would be offered half the new issue, the second portion being offered to the public at 97½ per cent.

A proposal for the formation of a committee of note-holders was carried unanimously. The committee is to consist of five members, two to represent the "Marconi" note holders and three the "Vickers" note holders, presided over by Mr. Crisp.

SHIPPING.

CARGO INSURANCE MARKET.

Several very serious claims on marine insurance policies on account of hook-damage have recently come forward. Most people thought that hook-damage had ceased to be a serious menace to underwriters, but with claims sometimes amounting to a hundred or more pounds, there is little room for complacency. It is rather curious that hook-damage should still remain an insurable peril. It is crept into cargo insurance policies during the war and has remained there ever since. Apparently, the supply of tonnage being on the short side, with owners reserved. The Danube and Black Sea ports showed more activity on the basis of from 20s. to 22s. from the former and from 18s. to 20s. from the latter, basis U.K. Continent.

Curios of every description representative of various parts of the world were to be seen on board the Cunard Liner "Laconia" (Captain F. G. Brown R. D. R. N. R.) on her arrival at Liverpool recently. The "Laconia" was returning to the Mersey after completing a most successful world tour. She left New York last November with 340 passengers on board, and after steaming through the Panama Canal proceeded to ports in China and Japan then to India, Ceylon and back through the Suez Canal and the Mediterranean to New York where she arrived on Easter Saturday. During her absence from Liverpool the "Laconia" has sailed nine seas, and steamed over 36,000 miles. She is not only the largest vessel to have passed through the Panama Canal, but also the largest to have anchored in a number of the foreign harbours at which she called. Everywhere the "Laconia" was received with great enthusiasm, and at Honolulu, when approaching the harbour, an aeroplane dropped streamers of welcome on board. The passengers on landing were met by the inhabitants and decorated with garlands of flowers in accordance with the native custom. In the evening there was a concert, the feature of which was native music by massed bands from the town. At Port Sudan Captain Brown was presented with a handsome Indian silver tea service by the passengers as a souvenir of a most successful cruise.

Underwriters are somewhat apprehensive of the conditions at present ruling in Bulgaria. The preparations which the Bulgarian Government are reported to be making for war against the Macedonians bode no good for the safety of traffic moving to Bulgarian destinations or to Salonika. So far, there does not appear to be any additional war rate charged on cargo to these destinations, but underwriters are watching their commitments very carefully.

FREIGHTS.

Chartering operations have marked a further contraction both in outward and homeward connections, and the position is far from favourable to owners. In the former trade the inquiry for coal tonnage is now of hand-to-mouth proportions and is likely to remain so until after the approaching holidays, and as boats are offering more plentifully, rates have further favoured shippers, though in the case of Mediterranean and South American discharge owners have successfully resisted additional cuts in rate.

Meanwhile the political uncertainty in Europe is regarded as the handicap to grain chartering from Montreal, Northern States, and the Plate, though in the case of the last-named the heavy loadings arranged recently for May are proceeding satisfactorily and the general opinion favours a revival after the

Whitsun vacation. Tonnage on the spot is not plentiful, and a handy boat at Rosario secured the recent maximum of 36s. 3d., followed by 31s. 3d. for June. Present indications are on the basis of 28s. 6d. for early June. Shippers at Montreal have secured cheaper space, at down to 28s. 6d. for Mediterranean and 22 cents for Greece, but nothing transpired from the Range. American coal rates were decidedly easier falling competition of grain, and for the French Atlantic several steamers were fixed at from \$3 down to \$2.50, with West Italy represented at from \$3.75 to \$3.65, as against \$4 a week ago.

In the East India hold steady at around 28s. 6d. on d.w. from Bombay or Karachi and 27s. scale terms from Karachi, the supply of tonnage being on the short side, with owners reserved. The Danube and Black Sea ports showed more activity on the basis of from 20s. to 22s. from the former and from 18s. to 20s. from the latter, basis U.K. Continent.

RECORD WORLD'S CRUISE.

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NIPPON LINES PROSPER.

FEW VESSELS TIED UP.

Japanese shipping has almost completely recovered from the slump, and only eight steamers of more than 1,000 tons gross are still tied up, their total tonnage being 25,327. The Department of Communications reports that the number of tied-up vessels in the middle

GIRL PIG BREEDERS.

PEDIGREE CALVES FOR YOUNG-FARMERS CLUBS.

The first Young Farmers' Club of the Jersey breed held their distribution at Northsea Farm, Rodmell, near Lewes. The young members of the club were delighted with the generosity of the members of the South-Eastern Jersey Club. The club is promoted by Miss Byng Lucas and Mrs. Stanger.

All of the animals were pure-bred Jerseys of first-class quality, and the young enthusiasts should get good results. This is the first club to be formed that has all pure-bred cattle.

The Young Farmers' Pig Club at Wootton Bassett, Wiltshire, which was promoted by Messrs. C. and T. Harris and Co., has just completed its third year.

The winner of the first prize for pigkeeping is Miss L. Hopkins, who made a gain of 75 points. The value of the two pigs when first given to her was £3 10s., and their value when killed £14 10s. 8d., showing a profit of £11 10s. 8d.

The second prize was won by Miss M. D. Hopkins, who gained 70 points. The pigs cost £4 2s., and when killed were valued at £14 13s. 4d., leaving a profit of £10 13s. 4d.

The first prize for records was won by Master C. Smith and the second by Miss B. Smith. Both these members have shown a good profit on their pig-keeping.

OF COURSE NOT.

A furrier was selling a coat to a lady customer. "Yes, ma'am," he said, "I guarantee this to be genuine skunk fur that will wear for years."

"But suppose I get it wet in the rain," asked the lady, "what effect will the water have on it? Won't it spoil?"

"Madam," answered the furrier, "I have only one answer. Did you ever hear of a skunk carrying an umbrella?"

SUBTLE COMPLIMENT.

"Why did you put the sign over your desk, 'This is my busy day'?" "It makes a good impression," answered Senator Sorghum, "when an influential constituent calls."

"But it might give offence," "Not at all. It adds to a visitor's sense of importance when I give him a cigar and tell him I want a long chat with him."

of April was as follows, showing a decrease of 16 vessels and 20,947 tons in the course of a month:—

	Number	Gross tons
Steamers	139	57,646
Sailing vessels	160	18,354
Total	299	76,000
Steamers about 1,000 tons gross	8	25,827

MODERN TYRANNY.

PURITANS, PRUDES, AND FADDISTS.

Mr. E. S. P. Haynes's "Enemies of Liberty" (Grant Richards, 6s.) is a spirited and convincing criticism of the prudish, prohibitionists, Communists, and other busybodies, who are trying their best to make life intolerable in England and the United States. "Our greatest peril," in fact, he thinks is now from the professed philanthropists.

In England there has always been a certain amount of aristocratic bullying by the squire or parson; but to-day this is insignificant as compared with the crude Puritanism of many Labour members and the incessant interference of pious persons with the private affairs of the individual.

The so-called Liberal Party no longer cares for individual liberty. It appears to represent nothing but a sinister combination of Puritanism and State Socialism; and in these respects it is really more dangerous than the Labour Party, which is manifestly more educable.

Among the worst enemies of freedom are the women faddists. I cannot help remarking that the only two women now in the House of Commons seem to spend their time in introducing the despotism of the nursery into the political institutions of Great Britain. Lady Astor has plainly avowed her intentions in this respect, and has said that she wishes to enslave men, in proportion to her influence for them.

The mischief of Prohibition in the United States comes—in for plain and spirited words from Mr. Haynes:

I should have thought that nearly everyone in this country except Lady Astor and a few cranks would admit that Prohibition creates nothing but every sort of anarchy and hypocrisy; just because it suppresses every human impulse that makes for law and liberty.

But perhaps the worst of Prohibition is that the American people who used to believe in freedom endure it.

That to a lover of liberty is the sad thing about Prohibition, not that it was allowed to happen, not that many people believe in it, but that no one seems to have the vigour or inclination to stand up and have it stamped out, not even those who spend their days blaspheming and evading it.

"Democracy," as the author remarks, "has always been the enemy of social liberty." This is a lively book which ought to be widely read, and its protest against the busybodies is sorely needed.

BRIDE'S LONG WAIT.

MAN WHO FORGOT THE HOUR.

Two hours after the time fixed for his marriage a bridegroom turned up at St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church, Kentish Town, and found that his bride had returned home.

The ceremony should have taken place at 10 a.m., and the bride, a priest, and a registrar were at the church prompt to the hour. Time passed, but there was no appearance of the bridegroom. At 11 o'clock the registrar left, and shortly afterwards the distressed bride also went home. Then about midday the bridegroom appeared at the church, found no one there and proceeded to the office of the registrar, where he announced that he had come to be married. He was sent to find the church officials, fresh arrangements were made for the bride to be present, and the postponed ceremony took place in the afternoon.

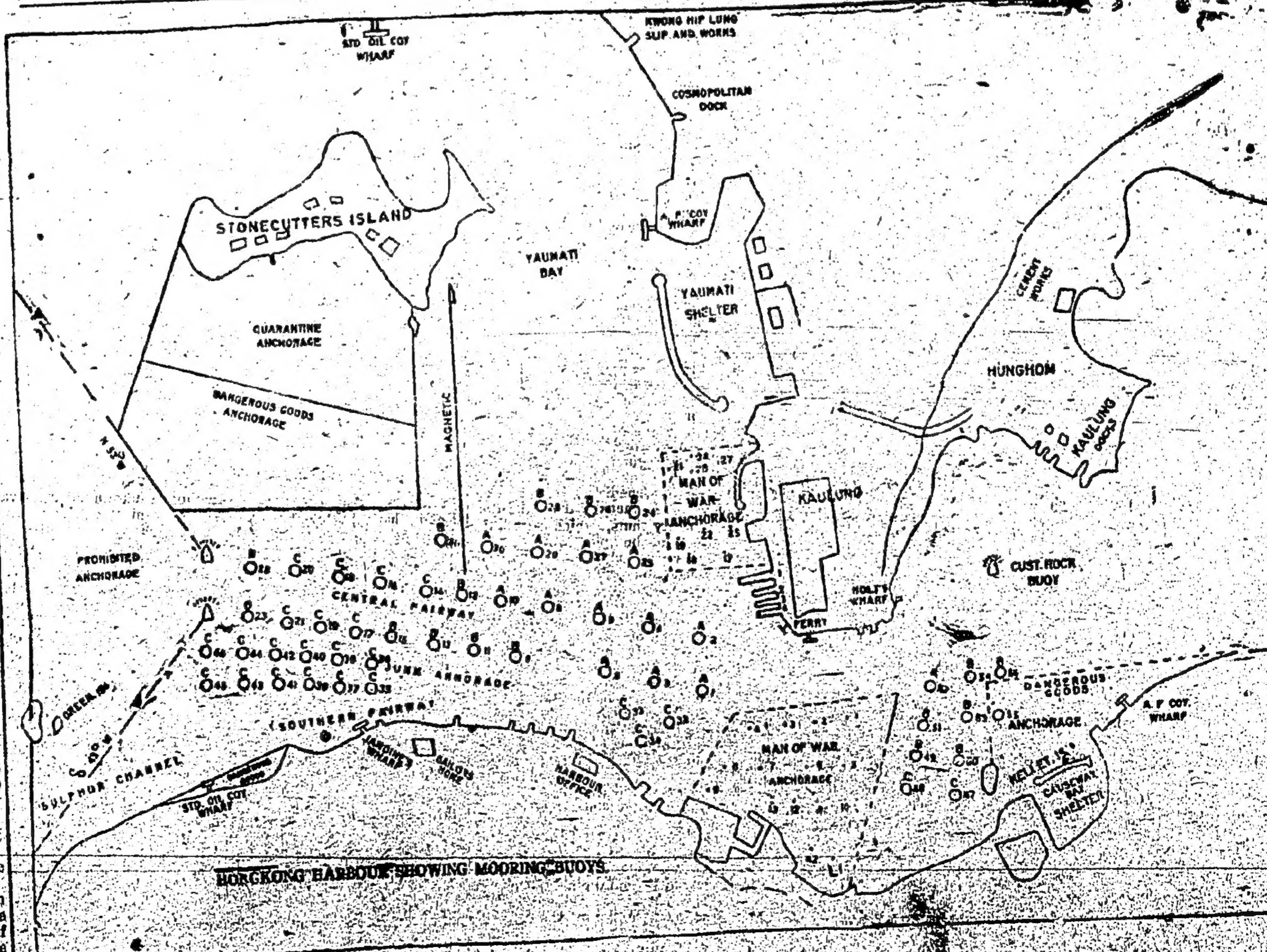
After apologising to all concerned, the bridegroom told his bride, who was now smiling, that he had been so busy in his shop that he could not get away and in the rush forgot that he was to be married at 10 o'clock.

HE MADE SURE.

"Are you sure," an anxious patient once asked, "are you sure that I shall recover? I have been told the doctors have sometimes given a wrong diagnosis and treated patients for pneumonia who afterwards died of typhoid fever."

"You have been woefully misinformed," replied the physician indignantly. "If a man has pneumonia, he dies of pneumonia."

Recently a keen demand sprung up for the flesh of crows in the Budapest market. The low prices of these birds of prey have attracted the attention of the needy class population. Many economists predict a slump in the relatively expensive birds or a rise in poultry prices.





Major & Mrs. P.W. Pinger, Roland Jr. & Edward.

Among the American victims of the Chinese bandits who held up the Shanghai-Peking Railway were Major Roland W. Pinger, his wife, Mrs. Pinger, and their two children—Roland, Jr., 8, and Edward 3. Mrs. Pinger and Edward were immediately released. Roland, Jr., was freed several days later, but Major Pinger was held captive.



Mr. and Mrs. Allan A. Ryan

George Maxwell.

Startling exposures, involving men and women at the top of the social ladder in New York, Philadelphia and Boston, are expected to follow the indictment, by a Grand Jury, of George Maxwell, immensely rich music publisher and President of the America Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers. Maxwell, who is now in Europe, is hurrying home to combat charges made by Allan A. Ryan, financier and son of Thomas Fortune Ryan, that Maxwell is the Author of a series of letters received by Mr. Ryan, coupling Maxwell's name with that of Mrs. Allan A. Ryan in an uncomplimentary manner. Scores of other persons high in social life have received similar letters, coupling the names of women with that of Maxwell, and the charge is made that Maxwell himself wrote the letters. In Europe, Maxwell denied the charge intimating he himself had been a victim of the poison pen and that a woman wrote them.



Morris Layton, a newspaperman, has positively identified the woman held in the jail at Tegucigalpa, Honduras, as Clara Phillips and her "baby sister," Mrs. Elita Mao Jackson. Mrs. Phillips escaped from jail in Los Angeles, where she was serving a life sentence for the brutal "stone age" hammer murder of Mrs. Alberto Meadows. She will soon be returned to the United States.



Arthur Kingsland, has married Hebe, an Irish girl, "Queen" of the Paris Minnequins, and he has started a violent agitation in the heart of Molyneux, the famous French modiste, who declares his famous model was his inspiration and that she can never be replaced. Kingsland had known the beauty for several years, but the marriage came as a distinct surprise in Paris.



Madame Tomas Jonescu, of Rumania, is shown entering the White House to present to President Harding a bound volume of her country's art, representing a collection of works from the sixteenth century, as a token of the gratitude of Rumania for American aid since the war.



Mothers' prayers are sometimes answered. Mrs. Anna Semon, lying on a cot in Boston City Hospital, prayed that she might see her son, Benjamin, married before she died. But Benjamin had no sweetheart. Before his mother died, however, he met Miss Beatrice Newman. It was love at first sight, and they were married at Mrs. Semon's bedside.



L. G. Wechbaugh, is so impressed with the marvellous powers of the new drug, adrenalin, that he has offered to permit physicians to stop his heartbeats for five hours and then inject the restoring fluid into his heart muscles, firmly believing it would instantly restore his heart to its normal functioning.



Justice Hal P. Hughes is shown performing the ceremony that made Helen Satterwhite, seated beside him, the bride of Horace W. Keller, a sailor, who at the time of the marriage, was 2,000 miles away confined to his bed with pneumonia, in the naval hospital. A total of 46,000 miles of telephone wires were necessary for the uniting of the nuptials. The couple had been sweethearts since childhood and were engaged to be married, but his serious illness caused her desire to hasten the marriage before his death.

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Lucky Curve Feed to Fountain Pens,

Patent Automatic Control Mechanism to Pencils.

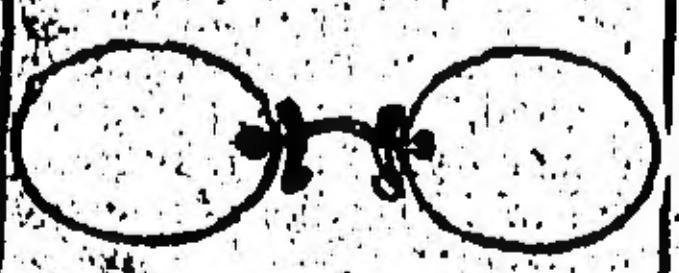
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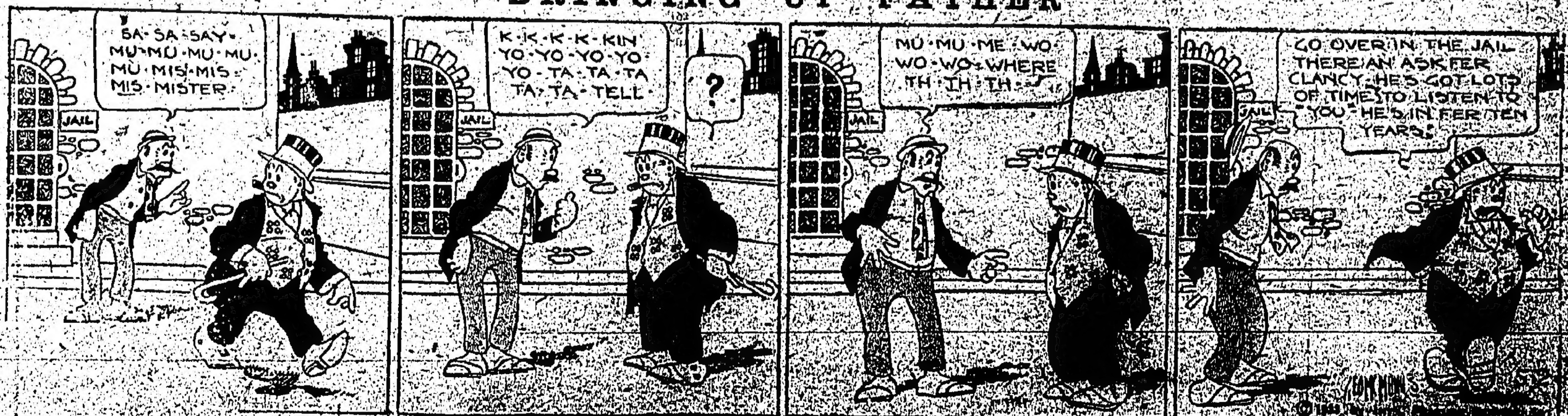
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The house recommended by
many local doctors for its
accuracy and cheapness.

SEE US THEN SEE.

BRINGING UP FATHER



EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

RUHR DEADLOCK.

LONDON, July 3rd.
Very little official information has been released concerning yesterday's separate conversations between Lord Curzon and the French and Belgian ambassadors. It is generally assumed that not much advance was made in the way of obtaining the desired French reply to the British questionnaire registered. Nevertheless the tension both in London and Paris has somewhat eased.

The Daily Telegraph's Diplomatic Correspondent states that at the close of the conversation between the French ambassador and Lord Curzon the latter, who was evidently disappointed with the unimpressive nature of many verbal elucidations, supplied registered Comte Saint-Aulaire to obtain additional and more definite particulars. It is believed that this request does not displease the French. The line taken up by the Belgian Government, apparently, is more or less identical with that of the French.

It is expected that the conversations will continue for some days. The Cabinet meets to-day.

LIQUOR ON SHIPS.

LONDON, July 3rd.
Advices from Southampton state that the British steamship companies have decided that, henceforth, they will carry liquor to the United States. The companies say they do not wish to be in the position of being able to obtain in America and to take aboard at New York, considerable quantities of liquor for their use on the voyage to England.

JIMMY WILDE RETIRES.

New York, July 4th.
Jimmy Wilde has announced his retirement from the ring.
[Wilde until recently held the World's professional flyweight championship. On June 18th of this year at New York the championship was won from him by Pancho Villa, the Filipino, who knocked him out in the seventh round.]

HEAVILY FINED.

BRUSSELS, July 4th.
The Belgians have fined the town of Durburg twenty milliard marks.

ANARCHY IN CHINA.

LONDON, July 3.
The Daily Telegraph in a leading article following up its Diplomatic Correspondent's statements cabled yesterday, dwells on the predominant importance of new markets for British trade, once order is restored. Even now the country possesses foundations of a flourishing commerce, and Hongkong is at present probably the most prosperous among Crown colonies. The paper is convinced that the Chinese will welcome measures which will conquer the existing anarchy.

Commenting on an article in the Times, a summary of which was called, on the 2nd inst., Sir John Jordan in a letter to the paper attributes the growing disregard for foreigners in China partly to the weakening of the solidarity of the Powers due to the European war. He doubts if the Tientsin will show much respect for the suggested native railway police unless there is a stiffening of foreigners in the ranks, and both ends of the line are under foreign control.

STORMY WEDDING.

PARENTS' DISPUTE IN REGISTER OFFICE.

A young couple had a stormy wedding in face of parental disagreements in a London register office. Owing to arguments between the parents the marriage was postponed for nearly two hours.

A licence for the marriage was obtained by a young man living at the Regent Palace Hotel, Piccadilly-circus, W. The bridegroom is a Protestant, the bride a Jewess, and it was thought that by marrying in a civil office the religious difficulties could be got over.

The parents of both parties did not agree and arrived at the register office to try to persuade the couple to cancel the marriage, or wait until one of the parties had become a convert to the other's faith. The registrar left the parties alone to argue the matter out.

They argued until nearly 3 p.m., when the registrar warned the couple that time was getting short if they wanted to be married.

Leaving their parents in the inner office, the couple decided to get married, and the ceremony was performed. Meanwhile the arguments continued in the outer room between the parents, but when the couple reappeared and announced that they were married, the parents ceased to argue.

For a moment there was a dead silence in the room, then the registrar, who had been playing upon the bride's father, asked the bridegroom by the arm and said, "Of course, you have settled it, but we were just coming to a decision."

NOTICE TO SHIPPERS AND PASSENGERS.

VESSELS DUE

FROM SINGAPORE.
July 17.—U.S.S.B. West Prospect.

FROM JAPAN.
July 6.—B.F. Tyndarus.
Aug. 7.—B.F. Sarpedon.

FROM DALNY.
July 6.—J.C.J.L. Tiltaroom.

FROM BANGKOK.
July 9.—E.A. Bintang.
17.—E.A. Banks.

FROM JAVA.
July 7.—J.C.J.L. Tiltaroom.

FROM MANILA.

July 7.—U.S.S.B. West Prospect.

FROM SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE

July 9.—E.A. St. Albans.
16.—E.A. St. Albans.
Aug. 10.—E.A. St. Albans.
Oct. 8.—E.A. St. Albans.

FROM VANCOUVER.

July 16.—O.P. Empress of Canada.
16.—B.F. Achilles.
Sept. 18.—B.F. Achilles.
Oct. 4.—B.F. Achilles.
Nov. 21.—B.F. Achilles.

FROM PORTLAND.

July 6.—U.S.S.B. West Cayote.
28.—U.S.S.B. West O'Rowa.

FROM NEW YORK.

Aug. 1.—B.F. Hyson.

FROM SEATTLE.

July 26.—B.F. Proteus.
Aug. 23.—B.F. Proteus.
Sept. 28.—B.F. Proteus.

FROM LOS ANGELES.

July 16.—U.S.S.B. West Ivan.

FROM SAN FRANCISCO.

July 16.—U.S.S.B. West Ivan.

FROM EUROPEAN PORTS.

July 16.—N.Y.K. Suwa Maru.
31.—J.C.J.L. Reparden.
Aug. 28.—J.C.J.L. Reparden.

FROM LONDON.

July 6.—B.F. Laomedon.
10.—G.L. Glesand.
14.—P.O. Glesand.
18.—P.O. Glesand.
22.—P.O. Glesand.
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On demand...

On New York...

On demand...

On Hongkong...

On demand...

On Calcutta...

On demand...

On Singapore...

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On Manila...

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THE CHINA MAIL

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Correspondents must forward their names and addresses with any communication addressed to the Editor, not necessarily for publication but as evidence of good faith.

All matter for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.

Letters relating to bills should be addressed to THE MANAGER.

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5, Wyndham Street, Hongkong.

LOCAL SHARE MARKET.

HONGKONG, JULY 5th, 1923.

OFFICIAL QUOTATIONS

11 A.M.

Name Stock Exchange Sharebrokers Association

Banks.

H.S.B.C. T.T. selling rate 2/31

and on London 2/31

Hongkong Bank 107 1/2

East Asiatic Bank 104 1/2

Canton Insurance 590 b.

North China Insurance 188 b.

Union Insurance 222 1/2

Yangtze Insurance 82 1/2

Far Eastern 127 b.

China Fire Insurance 465 b.

Hongkong Fire Insurance 465 b.

Shipping

Douglas 65 1/2

H.K. & N. 40 1/2

Indo-China (Prof.) 37 1/2

do. (Def.) 109 1/2

Star Transport 70 1/2 ex div.

Star Transport 49 1/2

H.K. & N. 315

China Sugar 61 1/2

Malacca Sugar 61 1/2

Mining

Kallian Mining Adm. 45 1/2

Langkat 45 1/2

Shanghai Exploration 31 1/2

Ranbe 5 1/2 b. & c.

Tranoh Mines 28 1/2

Ural Company 123 1/2

Sungai Com. 84 1/2

Dochow, W. & S. 168 1/2

H. & W. Dock 101 1/2

Shai Docks 99 1/2

